

**SEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO AMENDED
PROTOCOL II TO THE CONVENTION ON
PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE
OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH
MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS
OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS**

CCW/AP.II/CONF.7/NAR.23
6 October 2005

ENGLISH ONLY

Geneva, 23 November 2005

AUSTRALIA

National annual report

Submitted in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 of the
Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines,
Booby-Traps and Other Devices
as Amended on 3 May 1996 to the CCW

PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES,
BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996, ANNEXED
TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF
CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE
EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS

(PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

Summary sheet

Summary Reporting Format for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2,
pursuant to the decision of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to CCW
Amended Protocol II as stipulated in paragraph 20 of its Final Document,
CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/2

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING
PARTY

Australia

DATE OF
SUBMISSION

September 2005

NATIONAL POINT(S)
OF CONTACT

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND TRADE, CANBERRA
DIRECTOR, COUNTER-
PROLIFERATION SECTION
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
DIVISION
PH: 61 2 6261 3190
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This information can be available to other interested parties and relevant organizations

☒ YES

☐ NO

REPORTING PERIOD: **16/09/2004** to **15/09/2005**

Form A: Dissemination of information:

X changed

☐ unchanged (last reporting: 2004)

Form B: Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes:

X changed

☐ unchanged (last reporting: yyyy)

Form C: Technical requirements and relevant information:

☐ changed

X unchanged (last reporting: 2004)

Form D: Legislation:

☐ changed

X unchanged (last reporting: 2004)

Form E: International technical information exchange,
co-operation on mine clearance, technical co-operation
and assistance:

X changed

☐ unchanged (last reporting: yyyy)

Form F: Other relevant matters:

☐ changed

X unchanged (last reporting: 2004)

Form G: Information to the UN-database on
mine clearance:

X changed

☐ unchanged (last reporting: 2004)

PROTOCOL ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF MINES,
BOOBY-TRAPS AND OTHER DEVICES AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996,
ANNEXED TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON
THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED
TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS

(PROTOCOL II AS AMENDED ON 3 MAY 1996)

Reporting Formats for Article 13 paragraph 4 and Article 11 paragraph 2

NAME OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY	<u>AUSTRALIA</u>
DATE OF SUBMISSION	<u>September 2005</u>
NATIONAL POINT(S) OF CONTACT	DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE, CANBERRA DIRECTOR, COUNTER-PROLIFERATION SECTION INTERNATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION PH: 61 2 6261 3190 FAX: 61 2 6261 2151 <u>(Organization, telephones, fax, e-mail)</u>

Form A Dissemination of information

Article 13,
paragraph 4 (a) “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
Depositary ... on:

(a) dissemination of information on this Protocol to their armed
forces and to the civilian population;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party	<u>AUSTRALIA</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>16.09.2004</u>	to	<u>15.09.2005</u>
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Information to the armed forces

A Training Information Bulletin (TIB), No.86, ‘Conventions on the use of Landmines: A Commander’s Guide’ was prepared and promulgated in October 1999, within the Australian Defence Force. The document provides Commanders and staff with an interpretation of revised policy on landmines, booby traps and improvised explosive devices and its application to military operations, following the entry into force of international instruments such as Amended Protocol II and the Ottawa Convention.

Information to the civilian population

Information on the Australian Government’s landmines policy, including references to Amended Protocol II, is disseminated to the civilian population through:

- Ministerial press releases.
- Numerous media interviews and speaking engagements conducted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who is also Australia’s Special Representative on Mine Action.
- Regular meetings of the National Consultative Committee on International Security Issues in which Government officials and community members exchange views on peace and disarmament issues, including landmines.
- Landmines websites established by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Website addresses are: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/landmines> , <http://www.dfat.gov.au/security/ccw.html> and <http://www.ausaid.gov.au>.

Form B Mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes

Article 13, paragraph 4 (b) “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the Depositary ... on:

(b) mine clearance and rehabilitation programmes;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party	AUSTRALIA	reporting for time period from	16.09.2004	to	15.09.2005
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Current and recently completed mine clearance programmes

Cambodia – Contributions to Cambodia Mine Action Centre (CMAC)
 Cambodia – Capacity Building for Mine Action Planning (NGO)
 Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action Western Battambang Bavel District (NGO)
 Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action Battambang and Preah Vihear Provinces (NGO)
 Cambodia – Demining (Tempest Machine) (MAG)
 Sri Lanka – Mine Action Program (UNDP)
 Sri Lanka – Mine Clearance Operations (SFMA)
 Vietnam – Mine Action in Thua Thien Hue Province (NGO)

Current and recently completed rehabilitation programmes

Cambodia – Landmine Victim Assistance Funding for NGOs including a variety of community-based land mine victim assistance projects.

Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action Western Battambang Bavel District (NGO) incorporates victim assistance/livelihoods components.

Cambodia – Integrated Mine Action Battambang and Preah Vihear Provinces (NGO) incorporates victim assistance/livelihoods components.

Global – Research into Mine Victim Assistance including the production of three publications including: “101 Great Ideas for the Socio-Economic Reintegration of Mine Survivors”, “Land Mine Victim Assistance in 2004: An Overview of the Situation in 24 States Parties”, “Research into Mine Victim Assistance”.

Global – A Report on Tampering: Deliberate Handling and Use of Live Ordnance in Cambodia

Form C Technical requirements and relevant information

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (c) Depositary ... on:

(c) steps taken to meet technical requirements of this Protocol and
any other relevant information pertaining thereto;”

Remark:

High Contracting Party	<u>AUSTRALIA</u>	reporting for time period from	<u>16.09.2004</u> to <u>15.09.2005</u>
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Technical requirements

Australia does not have minefields, or produce or deploy munitions which fall under the technical requirements of this Protocol.

Any other relevant information

Australian Defence Force doctrine specifically promulgates compliance with Australia’s obligations under this Protocol, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons generally and the Ottawa Convention.

Form D Legislation

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (d) Depository ... on:

(d) legislation related to this Protocol;”

Remark:

High Contracting		reporting for time		
Party	<u>AUSTRALIA</u>	period from	<u>16.09.2004</u>	to 15.09.2005

It is the Australian Government’s policy to enact national legislation implementing international instruments only where existing national legislation is insufficient to meet the international obligations contained in the international instruments concerned.

Australia has not enacted specific legislation to implement Amended Protocol II, as existing legislation sufficiently covered the Protocol’s provisions.

[It should be noted that Australia has enacted legislation - the Anti-Personnel Mines Convention Act 1998 - to implement the Ottawa Convention. Section 7 of the Act makes it an offence to place, possess, develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, move or transfer anti-personnel mines.]

Form E International technical information exchange, cooperation on mine clearance, technical cooperation and assistance

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (e) Depositary ... on:

(e) measures taken on international technical information exchange, on international cooperation on mine clearance, and on technical cooperation and assistance;”

Remark:

High
Contracting reporting for time
Party AUSTRALIA period from 16.09.2004 to 15.09.2005

International technical information exchange

Australia attended a number of meetings to promote technical information exchange on landmine issues: a Workshop on engaging non-State Actors in the Ottawa Convention process (October 2004); the First Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention (29 November – 3 December 2004); the Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II of the CCW in Geneva and the Annual Meeting of States Parties of the CCW in Geneva (November 2004); the Ottawa Convention intersessional meeting (June 2005); and the CCW Group of Government Experts meetings (March, August 2005).

International cooperation on mine clearance

In countries where Australia is a major donor to mine action, for example Cambodia and Laos, Australia is a member of various committees that focus on donor cooperation and coordination. Australia participates actively in meetings of the New York-based Mine Action Support Group, which helps to coordinate international responses to mine action issues. International cooperation on mine clearance has been identified as a high priority in Australia’s mine action strategy.

Technical Cooperation and Assistance

In May 2005 Australia made a contribution of mine detectors to the NATO Partnership for Peace Project led by Turkey to clear unexploded ordnance in Azerbaijan.

A Tempest Mini Flail machine to support the manual clearance of mines in Cambodia was provided to the Mine Action Group Cambodia.

Australian civilians provide training and organisational support to Cambodia’s mine action program.

Form F Other relevant matters

Article 13, “The High Contracting Parties shall provide annual reports to the
paragraph 4 (f) Depository ... on:

(f) other relevant matters.”

Remark:

High
Contracting reporting for time
Party AUSTRALIA period from 16.09.2004 to 15.09.2005

Other relevant matters

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Form G Information to the UN-database on mine clearance

Article 11,
paragraph 2 “Each High Contracting Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations System, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.”

High
Contracting
Party AUSTRALIA reporting for time
period from 16.09.2004 to 15.09.2005

Means and technologies of mine clearance

Within the Australian Department of Defence, the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and the Combined Arms Training Centre are developing new methods of clearing mines. Completion of this research will take a number of years. DSTO is undertaking work in a number of areas covering mine detection and clearance, including background mine detection research and evaluation of route mine clearance systems, including its own Capability Technology Demonstrator (CTD) multi-sensor system and the Dorbyl Husky system.

Australian private enterprise, with Government support, is also involved in developing new technologies for mine clearance to speed up the rate at which mines are removed from the ground. A new type of detector invented and produced by an Australian company, Minelab Electronics, used in UN demining operations in Cambodia, Laos and elsewhere, has been funded through the Australian Government's aid program. Minelab Electronics has also provided the metal detector component of the US dual sensor hand-held stand-off mine detector (HSTAMIDS), being sold by Cyterra. A metal detector array based on the same technology was developed for the DSTO CTD and is now in use with a US humanitarian mine clearance vehicle program being run through Applied Research Associates, Inc.

Lists of experts and experts agencies

For information on experts and their agencies, the initial point of contact is:

Australian Army Headquarters
Staff Officer
Grade 1 Operations Support
Ph: (61 2) 6265 4224.

For information on policy, the initial point of contact is:

Director Counter-Proliferation and Arms Control
Counter-Proliferation and Arms Control Section
Governance and Counter-Proliferation Branch
Strategic Policy Division
R1-5-A20
Russell Offices
Department of Defence
Canberra ACT 2600
Telephone: (61 2) 6265 6510
Facsimile: (61 2) 6265 7050

National point of contact on mine clearance:

Katheryn Bennett, Mine Action Coordinator, Cambodia and Burma Section, AusAID.
Telephone 61 2 6206 4572; fax 61 2 6206 4983.
